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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re

U.S. application:

Sumiyo TANAKA

For:

AN IMAGE SEARCHING SYSTEM AND
IMAGE SEARCHING METHOD, AND A
RECORDING MEDIUM STORING AN
IMAGE SEARCHING PROGRAM

U.S. Serial No.:

Not yet assigned

Filed:

Concurrently

Group Art Unit:

Examiner:

Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Dear Sir:

February 23, 1999

Date of Signature

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth
in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant wishes to bring the
following items to the attention of the Examiner. Copies
of these items are enclosed for the convenience of the
Examiner.

No representation is made, and no representation is
intended, that more relevant material does not exist, or
that the order of presentation of this material in any
way reflects its relative pertinence. The references
cited below are not intended to constitute an admission

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of any kind. Specifically, this presentation is not an admission that the items listed below are properly citable against the above-identified application.

The following document is cited in the specification of the above-identified patent application:

- (1) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application 7-065169(A), (Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp.), published March 10, 1995.


The following document is also called to the attention of the Examiner.

- (2) Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application 8-329096 (A), (Minolta Co., Ltd.), published December 13, 1996.

Applicant considers the invention to be distinguishable over the above-cited documents.

As this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the filing of the application, no fee is incurred. However, if it should be determined that a fee is required, please charge any required fee (other than the issue fee) during the pendency of this application to Deposit Account No. 18-1260.

Respectfully submitted,



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